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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: C. Hallacher
HIROYUKI INOUE, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2853
Application No.: 08/796,519)
: 15/IDS
Filed: February 7, 1997)
:
For: INK CONTAINER FOR INK)
JET PRINTING, HOLDER FOR :
THE CONTAINER, CARRIAGE)
FOR THE HOLDER AND : March 17, 1999
INK JET PRINTER)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 4,872,026
U.S. Patent 4,853,708

Europe 395,197
Europe 496,642
Europe 551,752
Europe 623,471

These documents were cited during prosecution of four European patent applications corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of each of the European Search Reports, two of which are dated February 9, 1999, and the others which are dated February 3, 1999, February 5, 1999, is enclosed. In view of these dates, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this

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Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

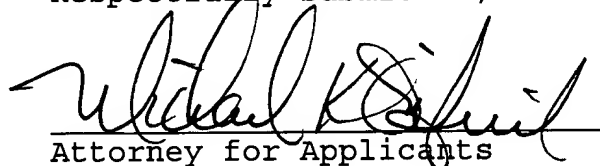
Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated June 16, 1997 and August 28, 1998.

The concise explanation of relevance for the documents cited above is provided in the European Search Reports.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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